

STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1942.

The outstanding feature of 1942, which is the fourth year of the war, is the remarkably good health of the people in our district. There have been no epidemics of any sort, and recorded notifiable diseases have been at a very low level. Of the diseases which are not notifiable but which are nevertheless important, Influenza has only been sporadic, and it has been of low virulence.

Considering the difficulties caused by wartime conditions, the slight increase in Tuberculosis is not disturbing in this district.

It is a tribute to the food rationing scheme that those poor areas where infections are usually bred have been singularly free from disease, and in consequence the health of the area as a whole has been maintained at a high level.

Towards the end of this year, a disease, which is not at present notifiable, but which nevertheless accounted for much loss of work and temporary disablement, occurred in this area as indeed it occurred generally in our country. I refer to the condition known as Infective Hepatitis or Catarrhal Jaundice. All cases recovered completely, with no sequelae as far as can be assessed.

A disquieting feature, though not in itself serious, has been the high incidence of Scabies. Much credit is due to the General Practitioners in this area who were able, by adopting domiciliary methods, to check a nuisance disease which could have assumed more serious proportions.

During the year there has been no reason to be more aware of the incidence of Venereal Disease. Appropriate propaganda and other measures have been taken to control and discourage the disease.

A notable feature of the year has been the installation of an up-to-date Sewage Works which is placed at a satisfactory and considerable distance from the town. The old Sewage Works had been a nuisance for many years in respect of river pollution and obnoxious smell.

It was necessary during the year to revise our arrangements regarding the accommodation of Smallpox cases. These cases are the responsibility of the Local Authority and as a result of the notification of a possible case of Smallpox, subsequently proved to be Varicella, out provision for such cases was found to be inadequate. This deficiency was remedied, and it was considered after certain alterations in the Smallpox Hospital that adequate provision could be made for the isolation of such cases in the future.

The high bacteriological purity of our water supply has been well supervised by our Sanitary Inspector, Mr Hutchinson, and I am indebted to Mr Matthews and the members of his office staff for their assistance to me during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,
CLIFFORD ARTHUR,
Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

	Male		Female		Total
	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	
New cases	2		1	1	4
Deaths				1	1

Number of cases on Register at end of 1941

58

Number of cases on Register at end of 1942

65

Vital Statistics for the year 1942.

Births and Deaths.

		Total	Male	Female.
Live Births	Legitimate	101	53	48
	Illegitimate	3	2	1
Still Births	Legitimate	4	3	1
	Illegitimate	4	3	1
Deaths of Infants under one year.	Legitimate	4	3	1
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths	Total 125. Transferable to other areas	54		

Deaths occurring out of the District
transferable to Stone Urban District. 17

Deaths from certain specific diseases.

	Total
Cancer	20
Heart Disease	21
Intra Cranial	16
Accidents	2
Suicide	1
Bronchitis	4
Broncho Pneumonia	3
Pneumonia	1
Nephritis	1.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS RATE.

	Stone Urban District.	Eng. & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.88	15.6
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live & still births).	71.42	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	17.85	
Correct Death Rate per 1,000 population	17.14	11.6
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births.	38.46	49

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1942.

Pneumonia	5
Diphtheria	3
Scarlet Fever	7
Chicken Pox	1
Erysipelas	1
Whooping Cough	5
Measles	3

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
at School and Infant Welfare Clinics.

	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Incompleted.</u>
St. Dominic's School	11	
Christ Church School	18	4
Stone Parochial School	16	2
Infant Welfare Clinic	127	6

ADMISSION TO YARNFIELD ISOLATION HOSPITAL 1942.

	From Stone U. D. C.	From Stone R. D. C.	From Uttoxeter U. & R. D. C.
Scarlet Fever	9	13	-
Diphtheria	4	25	1
Cerebrospinal Fever	-	1	-
Total	13	39	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL & CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

Bacteriological examinations of Water Supplies	Satisfactory 17
	Unsatisfactory 1
Chemical examinations of Water Supplies	Satisfactory 3
	Unsatisfactory 1

HOUSING.

1. Proceeding under Housing Act, 1936.
Number of houses in respect of which notices
were served requiring repairs. Nil
2. Proceedings under the Public Health Act.
Number of informal notices served requiring
defects to be remedied. 8
- Number of Formal Notices served under Section
93 of the Public Health Act. Nil
3. Proceeding under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing
Act 1936.
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made. Nil